

# Forest Health Monitoring Program

## Monthly Update

### October 2011

#### WHAT'S NEW

The following Forest Health Monitoring National Technical reports are now available in draft form on the FHM website: 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010 ([www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/pubs/index.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/pubs/index.shtml)). Each file is a draft only and will be removed from the website when the final document is published. The draft will be replaced by a link to the final report. An appropriate citation is listed with each draft report. You can also find links to all the published FHM national technical reports on this webpage.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

(Items beginning with \* indicate a new listing or new information added)

**October 18-19, 2011.** Utah State University, Logan, UT. Restoring the West Conference 2011: Sustaining Forests, Woodlands, and Communities Through Biomass use. The conference will examine how woody biomass harvest can facilitate land restoration projects while supplying much-needed fuel for renewable energy. Talks will focus on how biomass harvest can occur in ways that improve the ecological and financial feasibility of restoration projects. The conference will have a dual focus on the ecological effects of woody biomass harvest, and the technology of woody biomass harvest and use. Discussions will appeal to land managers and owners, researchers, and business people. For more information, visit: <http://www.restoringthewest.org/>

**January 29-February 3, 2012.** Society of Range Management. There will be an Aspen Ecology Special Session at the Society of Range Management (SRM) annual meeting in Spokane, WA, Jan 29–Feb 3 2012. This will be a half day session on **Thursday, February 2nd**. Presentations are expected relating to aspen ecology and management including but not limited to: successional development, disturbance interactions (fire, pathogens, herbivory etc.), regional scale change detection, conservation strategies, genetics, ecophysiology, climate change and wildlife habitat studies. For more information see the announcement posted here: [http://www.western-aspen-alliance.org/pdf/SRM\\_aspen.pdf](http://www.western-aspen-alliance.org/pdf/SRM_aspen.pdf)

## **JOB** **OPPORTUNITIES**

**The USDA Forest Service Forest Health Protection's (FHP) Rapid City Service Center of Region 2** will soon advertise for a permanent, full-time GS-414-9/11/12, Entomologist position. The position serves as entomologist for the Rapid City Service Center, Region 2-Forest Health Protection. The position reports directly to the Rapid City Service Center Leader. As the Entomologist, the incumbent is on a Forest Service unit where the incumbent performs a variety of professional entomology tasks: plans, coordinates, and conducts forest health protection surveys and evaluations on Federal and Tribal lands; provides technical assistance in forest health to federal and state agencies; analyzes data and prepares complete and comprehensive reports; plans, organizes, and conducts pilot projects, field tests, and demonstrations to determine the value of new or improved materials, strategies, or techniques for operational use in pest survey, evaluation, or management; coordinates with research scientists on new findings applicable to forest health protection. The Rapid City Service Center covers a wide range of forests, from high elevation alpine forests, to eastern hardwood forest on the plains. The vacancy announcement will be posted on USAJOBS at [www.usajobs.opm.gov/](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/) in the near future. Interested individuals should respond to this outreach, and will be contacted with specific vacancy announcement information, when the job is posted on USAJOBS. If you have questions please contact: Kurt Allen, Service Center Leader, 605-716-2781. Please complete and send the form attached to this Update (Attachment 1) no later than **October 28th** to: [kallen@fs.fed.us](mailto:kallen@fs.fed.us) or fax to 605/343-7134, Attn: Kurt Allen. *USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

**The USDA Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis Unit of the Southern Research Station** will soon advertise for a Safety and Occupational Health Specialist position (GS-0018-09) located at Knoxville, TN. This position is targeted for the GS-9 grade level and is a full-time, permanent appointment. Application is open to all U.S. citizens. The primary purpose of this position includes providing technical assistance, consultation, and guidance on the Research Work Unit safety program and projects; administering the transportation fleet and equipment inventory program operations; serving as the safety advisor for implementation of safety programs; providing advice on transportation program issues, such as maintenance, safety, fuel efficiency, and fleet size; and participating in on-site inspections of worksites to identify and evaluate conditions that may be hazardous to workers' safety and health. This position has collateral duties involving facility management. The Unit is comprised of office staff in Knoxville, TN, and field staff stationed or conducting work in 13 southeastern states, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This position will serve as the primary source for safety and fleet information for all Unit personnel, and will be responsible for gathering, compiling, and timely reporting of information on safety incidents and fleet usage. Interested individuals should respond to this outreach using the outreach response form attached to this Update as Attachment 2. It is anticipated that the vacancy announcement will be posted on OPM's USA Jobs website ([www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov)). To obtain more information about this position please

contact: James T. Vogt, Deputy Program Manager, USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station Forest Inventory & Analysis at 865-862-2035 or by email at [jtvogt@fs.fed.us](mailto:jtvogt@fs.fed.us). *USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

**The USDA Forest Service Forest Forest Inventory and Analysis Unit of the Southern Research Station** will soon advertise for a Program Specialist position (GS-0301-09) located at Knoxville, TN. This position is targeted for the GS-9 grade level and is a full-time, permanent appointment. Application is open to all U.S. citizens. The primary purpose of this position includes budgetary and financial management operations in support of the entire Research Work Unit. Activities include participation in formulation and execution of annual budgets; preparation of reports; tracking and projecting expenditures; and conducting cost-effectiveness studies. This position will also have property management responsibilities, such as ordering and maintaining office equipment and handling of acquisitions, transfers, and disposal of property. The position will serve as a source for expert knowledge and support for grants and agreements and will process grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements for the Unit. The successful applicant will also be responsible for numerous program-related reports, ensuring that Unit personnel are kept informed of important deadlines. Finally, this position will serve as organizational liaison for Human Resources, providing support to the Unit for a variety of personnel-related matters. This position requires occasional front-desk duties and as such is not eligible for telework. The Unit is comprised of office staff in Knoxville, TN, and field staff stationed or conducting work in 13 southeastern states, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This position will serve as the primary source of expert knowledge and assistance for budgets, property, and grants and agreements for all Unit personnel. Interested individuals should respond to this outreach using the outreach response form attached to this Update as Attachment 3. It is anticipated that the vacancy announcement will be posted on OPM's USA Jobs website ([www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov)). To obtain more information about this position please contact: James T. Vogt, Deputy Program Manager, USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station Forest Inventory & Analysis at 865-862-2035 or by email at [jtvogt@fs.fed.us](mailto:jtvogt@fs.fed.us). *USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

**Purdue University. Fred M. van Eck Scholarships: Graduate Assistantships.**

Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center

Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University

Description: The Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center (HTIRC) at Purdue University is seeking outstanding candidates interested in working toward M.S. or Ph.D. degrees. Areas of research include: development of plant tissue culture and genetic modification technologies for tree improvement; conservation and population genetics; forest tree breeding; forest entomology; nursery, outplanting, and silvicultural stand management.

Fred M. van Eck Foundation for Purdue University: Funding for the van Eck Scholarships is provided by the Fred M. van Eck Foundation for Purdue University whose purpose is to support research in the genetic improvement of high-value North American hardwood tree species.

**Qualifications:** Candidates should have well developed quantitative skills and knowledge and experience in biological sciences such as forestry, horticulture, botany, plant biology, genetics, physiology, entomology, or pathology. Candidates should have a GPA of at least 3.2 and a top-tier GRE score. Assistantships will be awarded at \$18,000 (M.S.) and \$20,500 (Ph.D.) per year. In addition, an annual research budget (\$10,000) will be available for research support and a laptop computer will be provided for the duration of the scholarship.

**Applications or Additional Information :** For fall semester, (August 2012), applications must be received by **November 15, 2011** (M.S. and Ph.D.). Applicants must mail a short (one page) letter of interest, resume, cumulative GPA, GRE scores, TOEFL scores (international students only) and three letters of reference to one of the principal investigators listed below. Please visit: [www.htirc.org](http://www.htirc.org) and contact Drs. Fei ([sfei@purdue.edu](mailto:sfei@purdue.edu)), Ginzel ([mginzel@purdue.edu](mailto:mginzel@purdue.edu)), Jacobs ([djacobs@purdue.edu](mailto:djacobs@purdue.edu)), Jenkins ([jenkinma@purdue.edu](mailto:jenkinma@purdue.edu)), Lawson ([sslawson@purdue.edu](mailto:sslawson@purdue.edu) or [shaneka.lawson@gmail.com](mailto:shaneka.lawson@gmail.com)), Meilan ([rmeilan@purdue.edu](mailto:rmeilan@purdue.edu)), Michler ([michler@purdue.edu](mailto:michler@purdue.edu) or [cmichler@fs.fed.us](mailto:cmichler@fs.fed.us)), Pijut ([ppijut@purdue.edu](mailto:ppijut@purdue.edu) or [ppijut@fs.fed.us](mailto:ppijut@fs.fed.us)), Saunders ([msaunders@purdue.edu](mailto:msaunders@purdue.edu)), or Woeste ([woeste@purdue.edu](mailto:woeste@purdue.edu) or [kwoeste@fs.fed.us](mailto:kwoeste@fs.fed.us)) prior to submitting a formal application and identify one of these principal investigators as your potential adviser. If selected for a van Eck Scholarship, we will notify you to make formal application to Purdue University.

**About HTIRC:** HTIRC is a collaborative regional research organization of industry, state and federal agency and university partners, administratively located in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Purdue University. Its purpose is to improve the genetic quality and regeneration success of North American hardwood tree species.

## **PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**

1. Li, Z.Y.; Dong, Q.; Albright, T.P.; Guo, Q.F. 2011. Natural and human dimensions of a quasi-wild species: the case of kudzu. *Biological Invasions*. 13: 2167-2179.

## **FOR MORE FHM INFORMATION**

**Visit the FHM homepage:** [www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/](http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/)  
or access via the USDA Forest Service homepage at [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)

**Region 2 –Forest Health Protection**

**OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM**

To complete form, double left click the appropriate gray box and select "checked" or "not checked" as necessary then click "ok". Type entries in other fields.

**Position Identification**

Position Title: **Entomologist**  
Series/Grade: **GS-0414-9/11/12**  
Location **Rapid City, South Dakota**

**Applicant Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Title, Series, Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Organization/Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Appointment: ☒ Permanent ☐ Temporary ☐ Term ☐ Not Current Employee

If you are NOT a current permanent (career or career conditional) employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following authorities:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Person With Disabilities   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Former Peace Corps Volunteer   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Employment Opportunities Act of 1998   | <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstration Project (external recruitment from the general public) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |   |

**Position Interest**

I would like to be considered for this position in the series identified.

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Series currently identified and classified                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other appropriate series for which I am qualified               |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Target grade level currently identified                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other grade level for which I am qualified (below target grade) |

Use the space below to identify special qualifications, interest, or additional information:

## Outreach Response Form

USDA Forest Service  
Southern Research Station  
**Safety and Occupational Health Specialist GS-0018-09**

**Location: Knoxville, TN**

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Current Federal Employee? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Current title/series/grade/location: \_\_\_\_\_

Current type of appointment: \_\_\_\_\_

*(e.g., Career, Career-Conditional, Excepted, Excepted VRA, etc)*

To obtain more information about this position please contact:

James T. Vogt, Deputy Program Manager

USDA Forest Service

4700 Old Kingston Pike

Knoxville, TN 37919

E-mail: [jtvogt@fs.fed.us](mailto:jtvogt@fs.fed.us)

Phone: (865) 862-2035

It is anticipated that the vacancy announcement will be posted on OPM's USA Jobs website ([www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov)). To request a vacancy announcement when it is available, please complete this form and mail to James Vogt at the above address.

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## Outreach Response Form

USDA Forest Service  
Southern Research Station  
**Program Specialist GS-0301-09**

**Location: Knoxville, TN**

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Current Federal Employee? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

Current title/series/grade/location: \_\_\_\_\_

Current type of appointment: \_\_\_\_\_

*(e.g., Career, Career-Conditional, Excepted, Excepted VRA, etc)*

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